OBITUARY

Jim Nabors dies at 87

A comic actor in two iconic '60s TV shows, "Gomer Pyle" and "The Andy Griffith Show," he was a baritone who made best-selling albums. **B4**

Associated Press

NATION

Immigrant gunman not guilty in slaying

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BUSINESS

Dow Jones closes above 24,000 for first time

Page B1

San Antonio Express-News

ExpressNews.com and mySA.com | **Friday, December 1, 2017** | The voice of South Texas since 1865

Witness: Deal let priest go free

Photos by Nathan Lambrecht / McAllen Monitor

A 1962 photograph showing John Feit (in clerical collar) is displayed during his trial in the killing of beauty queen and second-grade teacher Irene Garza in April 1960.

Accord came in the wake of teacher's killing in '60

By Aaron Nelsen
RIO GRANDE VALLEY BUREAU

EDINBURG — A deal struck between the Hidalgo County district attorney and the Catholic Church allowed a priest who was a suspect in the 1960 murder of a South Texas beauty queen to walk free, former reporter Darrell Davis testified Thursday.

It was the first day of the trial of John Feit, now 85, accused of murder in the death of Irene Garza, a 25-year-old second-grade teacher who had gone to him for the sacrament of confession.

Robert Lattimore, then Hidalgo County district attorney, agreed to steer investigators away from Feit, and in return the 27-year old priest would be sent to a monastery to live out the remainder of his days, Davis told the jury. He was a television reporter at the time, assigned to cover the case.

Lattimore "knew that John Feit had killed Irene Garza and the church knew it," said Davis, 77.

Feit, now 85, leaves the courtroom during a break in the trial.

Lattimore "had reached an agreement with the church that John Feit would be placed in a monastery for disturbed priests and remain there for the rest of his life."

It was April 16, 1960, the evening before Easter Sunday and Garza had gone to confession at

Trial continues on A11

Tax bill nearing approval

GOP scrambles to entice holdouts

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The Republican tax plan appeared headed for Senate passage after some dramatic, last-minute negotiations Thursday to win over GOP holdouts concerned about a new congressional analysis that estimated the package would add $1 trillion to the nation's deficit.

Republicans and the White House sorely need a legislative victory to reflect their year of control in Washington, and a landmark tax bill — which would dramatically lower the corporate rate and double the standard deduction for individuals — would provide that win.

If passed today as expected, the sweeping Senate tax bill would next need to be reconciled with a House version, a process leaders hope to expedite in a matter of days. Then both the House and Senate would need to pass the revised measure before sending it to President Donald Trump.

Yet even many Republicans who support the $1.5 trillion package expressed resignation ahead of the vote, concerned about the cost and details of a package that experts say benefits corporations and the wealthy, and the way the legislation is being rushed through

Bill continues on A9

Inside

Tillerson: Could be on the brink of being forced out. **A4**

Barton: In wake of photo flap, he decides not to run again. **A3**

Trump: Pressured senators to end Russia probe. **A11**

COMMENTARY *by Gilbert Garcia*

A rough time for ex-aides of city manager

Edward Benavides once was Sheryl Sculley's chief of staff.

Pat DiGiovanni had served as Sculley's deputy city manager.

It's been a bad month for Sheryl Sculley protégés.

Less than three weeks ago, her former chief of staff, Edward Benavides, had to step down as CEO of a wobbly Tricentennial Commission. This week, her former deputy city manager, Pat DiGiovanni, resigned as the head of Centro San Antonio, in the wake of revelations that a staffer has been tied to the embezzlement of $175,000 from the public-private nonprofit.

It's a double shot of bad news that has prompted tentative rumblings at City Hall about whether it's time, after 12 years as the most powerful city manager in San Antonio history, for Sculley to go.

Those rumblings won't get far — at least partly because she has the vehement support of Mayor Ron Nirenberg — but they raise a couple of

Garcia continues on A2

She'll soon set world record for dialysis

By Richard A. Marini
STAFF WRITER

Billy Calzada / San Antonio Express-News

Delores Muhlstein, who has been on dialysis for 42 years, relaxes while undergoing her treatment at Fresenius Kidney Care Lockehill.

Being on dialysis for more than four decades robbed Delores Muhlstein of many expected pleasures of life.

Although happily married for many years, she and her late husband, William, on doctor's orders, never had children. She was unable to hold a job. And because she couldn't miss any of her thrice-weekly treatments without suffering health consequences, there were no week-long cruises and few weekend getaways.

Still, on the cusp of becoming the world's longest dialysis patient, she insists she's not bitter.

"Oh, no, no, no. Why would I be?" she said. "I had a happy married life, a husband who supported me. I was always busy. And without the dialysis, I wouldn't have lived as long as I have."

The still-spirited 79-year-old started dialysis the same year Bill Gates and Paul Allen founded Microsoft, Jimmy Hoffa went missing and both "Saturday Night Live" and "Wheel of Fortune" premiered on what

Dialysis continues on A11

WEATHER

HIGH **76** LOW **52** Mostly sunny
Full report, C10

300 TRICENTENNIAL

Photographer captured life in old San Antonio. **A10**

365 days of tacos

La Costra with grilled cheese and bacon on a toasted tortilla from Los Güeros. **ExpressNews.com/Tacos**

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